

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 04683 101524Z

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8758

S E C R E T PRETORIA 4683

NODIS

DEPARTMENT PASS PARIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1, 2, 3

TAGS: PARM, SF, FR

SUBJECT: SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR PROBLEM

REFS: (A) STATE 215867, (B) PRETORIA 4369 AND 4535

1. I NOTE THAT IN PROPOSED DEMARCHE WE EXPRESSED A WILLINGNESS TO INITIATE ACTION TO SUPPLY FUEL FOR KEOBERG BUT SAY NOTHING ABOUT SAFARI I. I DO NOT KNOW WHETHER (A) THIS IS A BARGAINING TACTIC; (B) WE ARE HESITANT TO PROVIDE FUEL IN THE NEAR TERM GIVEN THE PRESENT INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE, WHILE SUPPLYING KEOBERG IS SUFFICIENTLY FAR AWAY NOT TO RAISE THE SAME PROBLEMS; OR (C) THERE ARE OTHER REASONS.

2. IN ANY EVENT, IT IS MY JUSGMENT THAT THE SAG WILL NOT MEET OUR DEMANDS ON THE BASIS OF KEOBERG ALONE. AS DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL, VORSTER IN HIS CAPE TOWN SPEECH LISTED FOUR AREAS HE WANTED TO DISCUSS (REFTEL B). OF THESE THE ONES RELATING TO REINSTATEMENT OR THE IAEA GOVERNING BOARD AND OTHER GB MEMBERS ACCEPTING NPT, THE SOUTH AFRICANS MIGHT BE WILLING TO LET PASS; BUT I ANTICIPATE THAT THEY WILL DIG IN THEIR HEELS ON SAFARI I AND KEOBERG. HAVING GONE PUBLIC ON THESE TWO THE WAY THE PM DID ON AUGUST 24, MAKES IT VERY
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DIFFICULT FOR VORSTER TO BACK DOWN. THE OTHER MORE GENERAL POINTS RELATING TO IAEA HE MAY BE WILLING TO SLOUGH OFF WITH AN APPROPRIATE EXPLANATION OF POSITION.

3. THE CHANCES OF VORSTER DOING WHAT WE ASK WILL BE ENHANCED IF WE CAN BE FORTHCOMING ON SAFARI I AS WELL AS KEOBERG.

4. FOR MY OWN BACKGROUND, WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING WHY
SAFARI I WAS NOT INCLUDED IN THE DEMARCHE PACKAGE.
BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 10-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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